

REMARKS

Claims 12-14 are currently pending in the application. Applicants have canceled claims 1-2, 4-11, and 15. Applicants request reconsideration of the application in light of the following remarks.

Indication of Condition for Allowance

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of condition for allowance for the above referenced application but for the few formal matters. Applicants believe that all formal matters have been resolved, that the application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request the same.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Third, the cited prior art reference must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. Furthermore, the suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based upon the Applicants' disclosure. A failure to meet any one of these criteria is a failure to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness. MPEP §2143.

Claims

Claims 1, 2, 6-11 and 15 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parks (U.S. Patent No. 4,685,901, hereinafter "Parks"). Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection because the differences recited in the claims are critical and significant to the materially different inventions of the present application. However, to expedite issuance of the allowed claims, Applicant has decided to cancel these claims in favor of allowance and issue of the remaining allowed claims.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated the allowability of the scope and subject matter of claims 12-14.

Regarding Doctrine of Equivalents

Applicants hereby declare that any amendments herein that are not specifically made for the purpose of patentability are made for other purposes, such as clarification, and that no such changes shall be construed as limiting the scope of the claims or the application of the Doctrine of Equivalents.


CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

If any fees, including extension of time fees or additional claims fees, are due as a result of this response, please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0513. This authorization is intended to act as a constructive petition for an extension of time, should an extension of time be needed as a result of this response. The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if this would in any way advance the prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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